programmes and deepening the democratic process etc.

2. While the number of militants killed in June this year is higher than that of May, it is not possible to make an immediate assessment of the overall results of the policy. The Kashmir militancy is sponsored, aided and abetted by Pakistan, and thus it requires sustained and systematic efforts to tackle it.

Visit of Home Minister to Jammu and Kashmir

4637. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he again paid a visit to the terrorist hit areas of Jammu following the cold blooded murder of 25 or more persons belonging to two marriage parties;

(b) what were the main observations of his team and what relief has so far been paid to the families of victims;

(c) the number of persons including women, children killed at the hands of militants in Jammu and Kashmir during the period since March, 1998, indicating the details of the incidents of militancy, and the number of militants killed or apprehended in connection therewith; and

(d) what effective steps have been and are being taken to deal with militants including foreign mercenaries engaged in militancy and related activities?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During their visit to Chapnari and Prem Nagar (both located within a short distance of Doda), the Home Minister and Officers accompanying him interacted with members of public available at the spot including survivors of the incident and members of the victim families. The Home Minister expressed his concern at such incidents and sympathy for the survivors. He also assured them that efforts are being made to ensure their security. Exgratia relief is paid to the families of the victims by the State Government as per standard norms fixed by them.

(c) The number of civilians killed during the period from 1st March 1998 to 15th July, 1998 is 337. Some of the major incidents perpetrated by the militants recently include killing of 26 persons at Parankot and Dhakikot villages in Distt. Udhampur on 17/18 April, 1998, killing of 9 persons in Doda and 4 persons in Surankot in Poonch District between May 4-6, 1998 and killing 25 persons of marriage parties in Chapnari village of Doda District on 19th June, 1998. As informed by the State Government, total number of incidents of militancy from 1st March, 1998 to 15th July, 1998 have been 1068. During this period 280 militants were killed and 403 apprehended.

(d) Intensive anti-militancy operations are being undertaken. The security forces/States Police have been redeployed at the strategic places to instill confidence in the people in the vulnerable areas. Close vigil is also being kept by the Security Forces and the intelligence agencies along the border/LOC and in the interior areas. System of Village Defence Committee is being strengthened.

Creation of Ministry of Border Security in Gujarat

4638. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has caused a direct infringement on the domain of the Central Government by creating a Ministry of Border Security in the State as the Centre has the sole constitutional authority to provide security to the country's frontiers; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government on this extraordinary development in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) According to available information, the State Government of Gujarat has created a separate Division, namely Border Security, under the administrative control of its Home Department for further strengthening policing and security arrangements in the border areas. Activities like infiltration and smuggling of arms, ammunitions, explosives, narcotics, contraband goods, etc. have a direct bearing on "Public Order", which is a State subject as per List II in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India.

Crime in the Country

4639. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of attempted rapes and molestations in the country during the first six months of the current year (1998); and what are the comparative figures for the preceding three spells of six months each; and

(b) whether the number of cases per lakh of population in the capital was the highest; if not, which State or Union Territory headed the list?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Available information in regard to incidents of rape and molestation during the relevant period is given in the enclosed Annexure. *[See* Appendix 184, Annexure No. 114]

(b) So far as total cognizable crime against women is concerned, crime per lakh of population during the year 1997 was the highest in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. However, in regard to crime under the Heads 'Rape' and 'Molestation', crime per lakh of population was the highest in Mizoram and Madhya Pradesh respectively.

Cognizable Crimes

4640. SHRI JIBON ROY:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply of Unstarred Question 2355 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7th July, 1998, and state:

(a) inspite of the urgency shown by the Ministry, figures are not readily available, at least till 30th June;

(b) whether the States are sending the reports or not;

(c) if so, whether all the States have lapsed and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the figures for the States who have given more updated figures in the same format as asked for in Unstarred Question 2355?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) Crime statistics are captured at police station level and consolidated at District and State Police Headquarters for onward transmission to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). NCRB starts receiving data for a month from State Police authorities from the following month. The data for June' 98 is not available from any State. Several States have not provided information even for earlier months. Details in this regard are contained in the enclosed statement (Annexure-I). [See Appendix 184, Annexure No. 115].

(d) Available information in regard to incidents of cognizable crime like murders, dacoities, robberies and burglaries, crime against women and crime against Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes during the period February to May'98 is given in the enclosed statements (Annexures-II to IV). *[See* Appendix 184, Annexure No. 116]. The data for the month of May'98 has still not been received from 16 States and 4 Union territories.